Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Joan Adrian Johnson was born May 25, 1931, in Yankton, South Dakota, where she grew up and graduated from Yankton High School in 1949 after which she attended Briar Cliff College; and,

Whereas, Joan married her late husband Bill Johnson on June 3, 1951, moved to Pierre in 1963, and has been the proud and loving matriarch of a large Republican family with four children, 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren ever since; and,

Whereas, Joan has been a dedicated volunteer and leader with the state and local Republican Party for more than 40 years, having served as precinct committeewoman, secretary, vice-chair and chair of the Hughes County Republicans, as secretary, legislative chair, polling chair and campaign chair for the Cen-Kota Republican Women, and as secretary, polling chair and member-at-large for the South Dakota Federation of Republican Women; and,

Whereas, Joan has been active and involved in national politics as a delegate to the National Federation of Republican Women's Convention in 1985, 1989, 1991, 1995 and 1997, and as a delegate to Republican National Conventions in Dallas, Houston and Philadelphia and was an alternate to the New Orleans convention; and,

Whereas, Joan has faithfully served the South Dakota Republican Party as Treasurer for 24 years, making her the longest serving Republican Party state officer in South Dakota history; and,

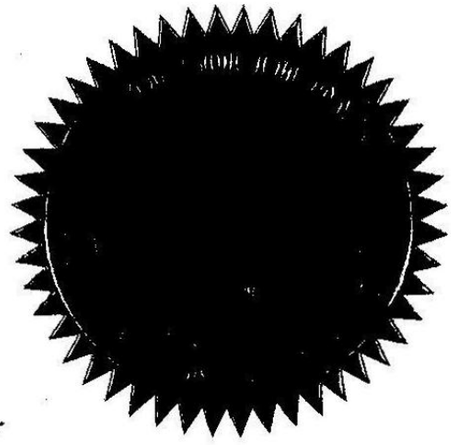
Whereas, Joan managed Vern Larson's campaign office for State Auditor in 1978, was Hughes County Chair for Clint Roberts for Congress in 1979, was Hughes County Chairman to Re-elect Ronald Reagan in 1984, and has worked for the South Dakota State Senate in a variety of positions since 1979, and is currently serving as Second Assistant to the Secretary of the Senate and as Bill Clerk; and,

Whereas, Joan has worked tirelessly for more than 40 years stuffing envelopes, planning events, and doing whatever was needed to help Republican candidates and the Republican Party, and in doing such has served as a model for Republican leadership across South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby congratulate Joan Johnson as Hughes County Republican of the Year, and proclaim February 19, 2003, as

JOAN JOHNSON DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State